



Your Monthly Connection to the City of Liberty Lake

Liberty Link

September 2008

Committed to Fostering Community Enrichment

Happy Birthday Liberty Lake!

**JOIN THE CITY OF LIBERTY LAKE AT THE SPOKANE SYMPHONY CONCERT
SATURDAY, AUGUST 30TH AT PAVILLION PARK
TO CELEBRATE THE CITY'S 7TH BIRTHDAY.
CONCERT STARTS AT 6:00PM WITH CAKE SERVED PRIOR**

Mayor Wendy Van Orman, City Council members, and city staff will be serving up free slices of birthday cake before the Spokane Symphony Concert to celebrate the City's 7th Birthday. The City of Liberty Lake officially incorporated on August 31, 2001 and has made the celebration at the Spokane Symphony Concert an annual tradition.



Mayor's Message

As we approach our 7th year anniversary of becoming the City of Liberty Lake, we have much to be thankful for. After our area was put into the UGA we had a choice of either steering how our community would look or have it planned for us. We chose to determine our own destiny by incorporation. By doing so we have increased services; i.e. snow removal, public safety, library, parks and recreation, and have lowered taxes.

We have a unique community that lives, works and plays together. I urge you to remain engaged and give your input as we plan for what the next steps will be. The River District across the freeway is in the process of being master planned. Your input will determine how the remaining area will be mapped out for the next 20 years. Our next Planning Commission meeting will be held at 4 pm on September 10th, come and see a Specific Area Plan of the River District Area and share your vision for parks as well as residential and commercial development. These SAP plans are on our website (www.libertylakewa.gov).

Here is what is happening within the community:

- First phase of Rocky Hill Park – Completion set for September. After grass matures, we will gather input for a new fort to be constructed in the Spring.
- Traffic signal was installed on Appleway and Molter.
- Entry Monument signs will be constructed at the newly finished Appleway/Country Vista Drive in collaboration with both cities of Liberty Lake & Spokane Valley.
- Year round Parks and Recreation activities are being secured for the community.



One of my goals is to be as open as I can and give answers to some questions you may have. Hence, a question and answer area will be part of our newsletter. Send your questions to wvanorman@libertylakewa.gov. Until then, I look forward to meeting you. Come join us at Pavillion Park on Aug 30th as we celebrate our 7th anniversary with the Spokane Symphony. I hope to see you all at the upcoming events. Please stop me and say hi!

Mayor Wendy Van Orman

Public Libraries: Civic Vision, Civic Pride

It was in the year 2001 that a group of Liberty Lake citizens and area residents formed and put into operation a free, volunteer-run, local library for all the people of Liberty Lake. Why did they do it? The Otis Orchard branch of the Spokane County Library District was only three miles away, the Valley branch about ten. Why all the effort—and un-remunerated effort at that?

Later, in 2003, a decision about the future of that library needed to be made in order for it to continue and grow. Would the best direction be absorption into the county-wide SCLD or municipal independence and local control accompanied by the growing pains such an institution would surely encounter? This was the basic point with which the City Council wrestled for six months in public meetings from January to June. Public comment was solicited and given at every meeting. Which of these alternatives promised the brighter future for our community?

After much discussion and debate, in a vote of 6 to 1 in June 2003, the City Council voted for the establishment of a municipal library, an action for which the Revised Code of Washington provides law and regulation. On what basis did the council members make the decision they did?

Civic Vision/Civic Pride

The same vision that prompted the formation of the City of Liberty Lake is the foundation of the decision to establish an independent municipal library: local control, local accountability, and local development of the programs and services that a library offers in support of the community in which it is located. These programs and services were seen as so important to the health of the city and the needs of its citizens that the library's existence should not be left to the discretion or budgetary woes of an outside agency. Second, the City Council recognized the value of a library located in the community for its children—citizens who cannot drive or bike the three dangerous miles to the nearest branch—and those senior citizens whose driving may be limited. Third, the local nature of a library would make its services and resources more available to more people in Liberty Lake because it *serves* Liberty Lake, not an entire county. In short, the City Council applied its charge to plan for the future of Liberty Lake to the question of library service. Independent, local control and local planning based on local needs was the choice they made, just as the volunteers who created the library chose before them.

Aware of the effect of this decision on Liberty Lake citizens, the City pledged to provide SCLD services to all who desired them until the municipal library was in a position to satisfy most of the needs of the community. Accordingly, non-resident fees for SCLD were reimbursed to applicants for the first 2 ½ years the municipal library was in existence. By the third year, only 25 applications for this re-imbursement were received, as opposed to the over 2,000 cards issued by Liberty Lake Municipal Library by that time, indicating that the program was no longer needed.

Now in our fifth year, the library has issued over 4,000 cards, owns over 23,000 items, subscribes to over 20 internet informational/educational websites, and is the only public library in eastern Washington that provides free, online homework help. We work closely with Liberty Lake Elementary School in providing reading program books and training for teachers and students in the use of our educational websites. Last year, the library spent over \$40,000 on books, AV materials, magazines, and websites requested by Liberty Lake citizens. Does it have everything they need or want right here onsite? No—but no library can claim that, which is why all libraries cooperate in lending to each other, usually at no charge. In emergencies, it is not unusual for our staff to either purchase the item that day or go to an owning library and check it out for our patrons immediately.

Liberty Lake's growing library has already won awards from the Washington Library Association and the Association of Washington Cities for exceptional service and the innovative activities of its Friends of the Library group. Its circulation and visitation grow every month, the latest figures indicating that in a city of 7,500 it had 6,921 patron visits and handled over 15,000 items for July alone. Given these facts and the pride that comes with accomplishment, we can profoundly state that the citizens of Liberty Lake are receiving a better level of library service and greater input on the direction of those services and that they will continue to benefit from having made the decision to form our Municipal Library.

Liberty Lake Municipal Library

September Story Times At The Liberty Lake Library



The Library will be taking a two-week break from story times from 9/1 to 9/14. Regular story times will resume on Monday September 15.

Mondays (beginning 9/15)
10:15 and 11:00
Baby Laptime
Books, Rhymes, and Music
Ages 9 – 24 months

Tuesdays (beginning 9/16)
10:30
Toddler/Preschool Story Time
Stories, music, and dramatic play
18+ months

Fridays and Saturdays
10:30
And Friday Afternoons at 1:00
Stories and Crafts
3 years and up
Sept 19, 20 Apples
Sept 26, 27 Music

Liberty Lake Municipal Library
1421 N. Meadowood Lane, Suite 130, 140 Liberty Lake, WA 99019
Phone: 509-232-2510 Fax: 509-232-2512
<http://www.libertylakewa.gov>

Liberty Lake Recreation

**For more information on these and other City Recreation offerings,
visit www.libertylakewa.gov or call Troy @ 755-6726**

Acrylics Art Class

With Agnes Carran

"Learn From A Classical Painter"



**Tuesdays and Wednesdays
6:30pm-8:30pm
Each session a total of 6 classes**

First Session: Sept 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th, and 24th

Trailhead Golf Course Building Basement

Learn:
-Color Mixing
-Glazing Process
-Shapes & Shadows
-Create your own painting
-Have Fun!

Ages 5 & up!

Students must provide their own supplies including easel.
(Some supplies may be provided by the instructor for a \$5 lab fee based on availability).



Northern Quest Casino Trip

Tuesday September 30th (12-5pm)

Gamble, Eat, Save on Gas, Have Fun & Win Some Money!

FREE Shuttle provided by the City of Liberty Lake.

Ages 21+

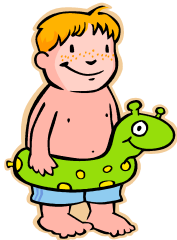


You MUST register by Sept 26th to reserve a spot on the shuttle, which will pick-up and return to City Hall.

open Swim
At the

LIBERTY LAKE

Athletic Club



23410 E Mission Ave

**Daily Afternoon Sessions
3:30 - 5:30 pm**

Only \$5 per person
(\$1 off if you mention this newsletter)

**No registration necessary
(just show up!)**

**Children under 18 must be
accompanied by an adult.**



**Golf at Trailhead Golf
Course!
Lessons are available**

**Mollie Thola
LPGA Head Professional**



For more information

**Call the Pro Shop
(509) 928-3484**





POSTAL PATRON OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Watch for notices of upcoming public meetings, work-shops, and hearings in the Liberty Lake Splash and on the City website at www.libertylakewa.gov/development/public_notices.asp.

2008 CITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENTS PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, & TRAILS PLAN UPDATE

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US POSTAGE
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Liberty Lake, WA

Get Involved - September 2008

Saturday Aug. 30th

- Spokane Symphony Concert
6 pm, Pavillion Park

Sunday, Aug. 31st

- City's 7th Birthday



Monday, Sept. 1st

- Labor Day
- City Hall Closed

Tuesday, Sept. 2nd

- City Council, 7 pm, City Hall

Wednesday, Sept 3rd

- Kiwanis, 6:45 am, City Hall
- Senior Lunch, 10 am-2 pm, City Hall
- SCOPE, 6:30 pm., City Hall

Thursday, Sept 4th

- Rotary, 12 pm, Best Western
Peppertree - Liberty Lake Inn



Monday, Sept 8th

- Central Valley School Board
6:30 pm, 19307 E. Cataldo

Wednesday, Sept 10th

- Kiwanis, 6:45 am, City Hall
- Senior Lunch, 10 am-2 pm, City Hall
- Planning Commission, 4pm, City Hall

Thursday, Sept 11th

- Rotary, 12 pm, Best Western
Peppertree - Liberty Lake Inn

Tuesday, Sept 16th

- City Council, 7 pm, City Hall

Wednesday, Sept 17th

- Kiwanis, 6:45 am, City Hall
- Senior Lunch, 10 am-2 pm, City Hall
- Sewer / Water Board, 7 pm,
Denny Ashlock Building
- Meadowood Homeowner's Assoc.
Meeting, 7 pm, City Hall

Thursday, Sept 18th

- Rotary, 12 pm, Best Western
Peppertree - Liberty Lake Inn

Monday, Sept 22nd

- Central Valley School Board
6:30 pm, 19307 E. Cataldo



Wednesday, Sept 24th

- Kiwanis, 6:45 am, City Hall
- Senior Lunch, 10 am-2 pm, City Hall
- Planning Commission, 6pm, City Hall

Thursday, Sept 25th

- Rotary, 12 pm, Best Western
Peppertree - Liberty Lake Inn

Contact the City



22710 E. Country Vista Dr.
Liberty Lake, WA 99019

Phone: (509) 755-6700

Fax: (509) 755-6713

www.libertylakewa.gov

City Hall Hours of Operation:
Mon. thru Fri. - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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| • Mayor Wendy Van Orman | 755-6701 |
| • City Hall | 755-6700 |
| • Community Development | 755-6707 |
| • Liberty Lake Police Department | |
| • Emergency | 911 |
| • On-Duty Officer Cell | 218-4899 |
| • Chief Brian Asmus | 755-1141 |
| • Police Fax | 755-1144 |
| • S.C.O.P.E. | 755-1143 |
| • Liberty Lake Municipal Library | 232-2510 |
| • Trailhead Golf Course | 928-3484 |

For more contact information and e-mail
addresses, visit our website at
www.libertylakewa.gov